

John Valceanu <john.valceanu@nara.gov>**Re: Re: PRA and FRA Statements and Guidance**

1 message

John Valceanu <john.valceanu@nara.gov>
To: Maria Stanwich <maria.stanwich@nara.gov>

Wed, Feb 15, 2017 at 9:30 AM

Got it. Thanks, Maria.

John Valceanu
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On Wed, Feb 15, 2017 at 8:22 AM, Maria Stanwich <maria.stanwich@nara.gov> wrote:

Sorry Valchy. I sent this to you but it was the wrong address. Hope you receive it this time.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Maria Stanwich" <maria.stanwich@nara.gov>
Date: Feb 15, 2017 8:16 AM
Subject: Re: PRA and FRA Statements and Guidance
To: "Phillips, Meg" <meg.phillips@nara.gov>
Cc: <john.valceanu@nara.gov>

Meg,

I'm on leave today as well. (b) (5)

Also, the Group email for MT is updated so feel secure that you are reaching all of them when you send messages to Management_Team@nara.gov. Talk to you Friday.
Maria

On Feb 15, 2017 7:49 AM, "Meg Phillips" <meg.phillips@nara.gov> wrote:
OK.

I'm actually off today and not going to be accessible again until later in the afternoon, but I wanted to make sure I had 1) a current list of MT members, and 2) a chance to let you know that this stuff may keep coming at a brisk clip. Overnight I got copied on another series of messages from civil society folks which I could include or not - (b) (5)

I'll paste some of this below:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

- [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Based upon that, I'm concerned about what Wired has reported and how. I'm going to follow up with an editor there.

Meg Phillips
External Affairs Liaison
National Archives and Records Administration
[301-837-3111](tel:301-837-3111)



On Wed, Feb 15, 2017 at 12:18 AM, Maria Stanwich <maria.stanwich@nara.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Meg. You should share points 1 - 3 with the MT in a new email. (b) (5)

[Redacted]

(b) (5). Let's try to find some time on Friday to meet, if you and Valchy are available. Would you send us an invite?

Thanks
Maria

On Tue, Feb 14, 2017 at 2:26 PM, Meg Phillips <meg.phillips@nara.gov> wrote:
Maria and Valchy,

Who exactly would like to be copied on updates related to this? What follows is 1) important announcement from SAA and OpenTheGovernment.org, 2 questions about possible violations of the FRA and PRA that I think you've probably heard before, 3) a report about how Data.gov is thinking about Data Refuge projects, and 4) my thoughts about how NARA could play and active rather than purely reactive role on some of this stuff (particularly the web harvest and data set issues.)

Today, here's what we've got {from pasted release widely distributed on listservs}

1) The Society of American Archivists (SAA) has signed on to a [letter to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs](#), requesting that OMB “issue guidance to federal agencies, reminding them that they are required under the Paperwork Reduction Act to give public notice before removing online government information.” The letter begins:

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issue guidance to federal agencies, reminding them that they are required under the Paperwork Reduction Act to give public notice before removing online government information.¹ We are concerned, given recent reports that the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other agencies have begun removing information on a number of important topics such as animal welfare, individuals with disabilities, climate change, and more from their websites,² that the public is at risk of losing access to valuable government information.³ We respectfully request your attention be given to this matter and that OMB take immediate action to ensure appropriate public notice is given.

The Paperwork Reduction Act states that any agency must, “provide adequate notice when initiating, substantially modifying, or terminating significant information dissemination products.”⁴ It was widely reported that the Trump Administration directed the Environmental Protection Agency to remove the climate change page from its website, and then later scaled back plans for removal, causing confusion and worry.⁵ There has still been no public notice announcing which information the agency is removing from its website, and the public has no way of knowing which government information is no longer accessible online, or where it may have been archived elsewhere on the agency site. We also do not know whether other agencies received similar orders from the White House or individuals within the agency, and may have already started removing important government information from the web.

Read the full letter, coordinated by [OpenTheGovernment.org](#) and signed by more than 60 organizations, [here](#).

2) [OpentheGovernment.org](#)'s Patrice McDermott wrote:

There is a good deal of interest (in several communities) in the WH (and also agency) use of communications applications such as Signal -- an end-to-end encrypted instant messaging and voice calling application that can be set to auto-delete messages and calls. A colleague (Stephanie Martz, she was in the Obama WH Counsel's Office) was going to reach out to John Lassiter to have a discussion about the access & preservation issues such apps raise -- but I don't think she has done so.

On same theme, I got a message from Council of State Archives staffer pointing out:

You have probably already seen this, but apparently, some of the WH staff is using non-government channels to communicate with each other. I've copied the sentence about that and a link to the whole article:

"Staffers, meanwhile, are so fearful of being accused of talking to the media that some have resorted to a secret chat app — Confide — that erases messages as soon as they're read."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/upheaval-is-now-standard-operating-procedure-inside-the-white-house/2017/02/13/d65dee58-f213-11e6-a9b0-ecee7ce475fc_story.html?hpid=hp_hp-banner-main_whitehouse-0719pm%3Ahomepage%2Fstory&utm_term=.138cfc986199

3) On a somewhat more substantive note, it sounds like the Data.gov people are also starting to see interest from public groups wanting to rescue their data on the Data Refuge model. They will be consulting with the

Library of Congress about the End of Term Web Harvest work. They mentioned the possibility of actively working with the community groups to set some kind of standards for how that might be done.

4) (b) (5)



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(b) (5)



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If there were interest, this is obviously the kind of project I could sink my teeth into.

Meg

Meg Phillips
External Affairs Liaison
National Archives and Records Administration
[301-837-3111](tel:301-837-3111)



On Sun, Feb 12, 2017 at 2:45 PM, Maria Stanwich <maria.stanwich@nara.gov> wrote:

Hi Meg,

Last Friday, we posted a PRA statement and guidance to archives.gov.

<https://www.archives.gov/>

<https://www.archives.gov/news/fra-pra-guidance>

We'll be doing the same for FRA on Monday. Valchy will let you know when it's been posted.

(b) (5)



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If you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please contact me or Valchy.

3/26/2018

National Archives & Records Administration Mail - Re: Re: PRA and FRA Statements and Guidance



Thanks
Maria